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or Fax (571) 273-2885 INSTRUCTIONS: The form should was used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further threspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications. CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address) Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission. 26111 12/21/2005 STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC Certificate of Mailing or Transmission I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below. 1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005 02/13/2006 MBEYENE2 00000165 10772470 (Signature) 300.00 OP 01 FC:1504 700.00 GP 02 FC:2501 (Date 03 FC:8001 9.00 OP FIRST NAMED INVENTOR ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. CONFIRMATION NO. APPLICATION NO. FILING DATE 10/772,470 02/06/2004 William R. LaCourse 2254.0010001 6717 TITLE OF INVENTION: VACUUM MEMBRANE EXTRACTION SYSTEM DATE DUE APPLN. TYPE SMALL ENTITY **ISSUE FEE PUBLICATION FEE** TOTAL FEE(S) DUE nonprovisional YES \$700 \$300 \$1000 03/21/2006 **EXAMINER** ART UNIT CLASS-SUBCLASS RAEVIS, ROBERT R 2856 073-863230 Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363). 2. For printing on the patent front page, list STERNE, KESSLER, (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached. **GOLDSTEIN & FOX PLLC** (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required. listed, no name will be printed. 3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type) PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment. (A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY) Baltimore, Maryland University of Maryland, Baltimore County ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): 4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed: 4b. Payment of Fee(s): Issue Fee A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed. Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted) Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 19-0036 (enclose an extra copy of this form). Advance Order - # of Copies 5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above) a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2). The Director of the USPTO is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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February 10, 2006

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Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Art Unit 2856

Mail Stop: Issue Fee

Re:

U.S. Utility Patent Application

Appl. No. 10/772,470; Filed: February 6, 2004 For: Vacuum Membrane Extraction System

Inventors:

LaCOURSE et al.

Our Ref:

2254.0010001/RWE/JKM

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038) in the amount of \$1,009.00 to cover:

\$700.00 Issue fee;

\$300.00 Publication fee;

\$ 9.00 Three (3) advance copies of patent;

- 2. Issue Fee Transmittal (PTOL-85); and
- 3. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC.: 1100 New York Avenue, NW: Washington, DC 20005: 202.371.2600 f 202.371.2540: www.skgf.com

Commissioner for Patents February 10, 2006 Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

Jeffrey K. Mills

Agent for Applicants

Registration No. 56,413

RWE/JKM:bac Enclosures

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